

**REMARKS**

The Examiner has not acknowledged the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 11, 2003. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide an initialed PTO 1449 form with the next Office Action.

On the Office Action Summary, the Examiner indicates that a certified copy of the priority document has not been received. However, a certified copy of JP 2000-145128 was submitted on April 25, 2001, the filing date of the Application. A copy of the USPTO filing receipt for this application confirming receipt of the priority document on April 25, 2001 is enclosed with this response.

On June 3, 2004, the undersigned spoke with the Examiner regarding the discrepancy. The Examiner was unable to obtain the file at the time, but indicated that the Applicant can assume it was an error on the Examiner's part. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the priority document, in the next Office Action.

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract as containing more than one paragraph. Further, the Examiner has noted that the Abstract must contain 50 to 150 words. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the Abstract, and submits that such amendments overcome the objection. Applicant further submits that the Abstract does not interpret or limit the scope or meaning of the claims.

Also, Applicant is submitting herewith a substitute formal drawing for Fig. 1, in order to correct a minor error. In particular, the “sales program” was incorrectly labeled as reference numeral “14” instead of reference numeral “11”.

**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2001/0056394 to Hamada (“Hamada”). This rejection is respectfully traversed. In particular, the filing date of Hamada (i.e. December 5, 2000) is after the filing date (i.e. May 17, 2000) of Applicant’s foreign priority document JP 2000-145128. Accordingly, Applicant is hereby removing Hamada as a prior art reference by perfecting the claim to foreign priority. Submitted herewith is a verified English translation of JP 2000-145128. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-8.

**Newly Added Claims**

Applicant has added claims 9-13 to provide more varied protection for the present invention. Applicant submits that claims 9-13 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

**Conclusion**

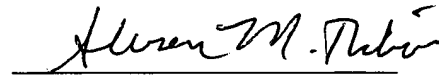
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Application No.: 09/840,825

Attorney Docket No.: Q64165

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison M. Tulino  
Registration No. 48,294

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 4, 2004



13

REQUEST OF EARLY NOTIFICATION OF SERIAL NUMBER

Inventor: Tetsuya HIRAKAWA

Title: SALES SYSTEM AND SALES METHOD FOR SELLING  
PRODUCTS BY USING  
THE INTERNET, AND STORAGE MEDIUM STORING SALES  
PROGRAM

Atty Doc. #: Q64165 Client: TAKAHASHI & COMPANY

Filing Date: April 25, 2001 # Pgs. Spec/Abst: 10/1 #Claims: 8

# Dwg. Sheets: 3 Decl YES Prelim Amdt NO

IDS/Prior Art: NO Pr Doc: YES Asgmt: YES Fee: \$710.00/\$40.00

2 Checks Attached ☐ Charge to Deposit # 19-4880 Atty/Sec: JFO/sds

SERIAL NO.:

CONF NO.:

